

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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The Honorable Ash Kalra California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 5130 Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 2167 (KALRA) **SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Kalra:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2167.

AB 2167 declares the intent of the Legislature to be that the disposition of any criminal case use the least restrictive means possible, and requires the court presiding over a criminal matter to consider alternatives to incarceration, including, without limitation, collaborative justice court programs, diversion, restorative justice, and probation.

Alternatives to incarceration and diversion programs have repeatedly been shown to not only be more effective, but can also lead to reduced prison and jail costs, lower recidivism rates, and are one way to address harmful racial disparities in the criminal justice system.

While AB 2167 requires the court presiding over a criminal matter to consider alternatives to incarceration, nothing in AB 2167 limits the discretion of the court to sentence a defendant to county jail or state prison when appropriate to protect public safety.

AB 2167 would align California with states like Alabama, Arkansas, Minnesota, Tennessee, and New York which have already adopted statutes requiring sentences only be as severe as necessary to ensure public safety.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN District Attorney

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